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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Teng Soon Wee et al.

Serial No.: 09/332,756

Filed: 14 June 1999

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING ABLATION-FREE MARKING ON HARD DISK MEDIA

Docket No.: 16864-0013

Examiner: Mr. Jonathan Johnson

Group A.U.: 1725

Last Office Action: 10 April 2001

Paper No.: 7

Honorable Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

STATE, PA

AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-entitled application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

- 5 1 (Amended). A laser apparatus for [creating]
marking visible surface deformations on the surface of a
[workpiece such as a] multi-layered workpiece including an
upper carbon layer, at least one intermediate metallic
layer, and a lower metallic substrate, comprising
- 10 (a) a laser generator for generating an un-
conditioned output laser beam;
- (b) a beam conditioner responsive to said
output laser beam [and operative to generate a conditioned
laser beam; said beam conditioner] including (i) a beam ex-
- 15 pander [responsive to said output laser beam and] operative
to generate an expanded laser beam and (ii) a beam collima-
tor for collimating said beam;
- (c) a variable beam attenuator responsive to
said expanded collimated beam and operative to generate a
- 20 collimated conditioned marking beam; [(c)]

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